

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 AGR-05

DOT-00 EPA-01 INT-05 LAB-04 SIL-01 L-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /085 W

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P 090335Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9269

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 4592

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, JA

SUBJECT: ECONCOM X

REF: STATE 078108

1. FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA MET PRESS AFTER CABINET MEETING MORNING APRIL 8. IN MIDDLE OF GENRAL BRIEFING ABOUT TOPICS HE EXPECTS TAKE UP WITH SECRETARY, HE INJECTED SINGLE SENTENCE RELATING TO ECONCOM. ACCORDING TO FONOFF STAFF, WHAT HE SAID WAS "THE QUESTION OF HOLDING ECONCOM IN SEPTEMBER SEEMS TO HAVE FIZZLED OUT (TACHIGIE) UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES." PRESS DID NOT QUESTION MIYAZAWA ON THIS POINT.

2. EVENING PAPERS APRIL 8 CARRIED BRIEF ARTICLES WITH VARIOUS INTERPRETATIONS OF REASONS FOR CANCELLATION. YOMIURI ("ECONCOM SHELVED") INTERPRETED MIYAZAWA AS INDICATING REASON WAS SUDDEN CHANGES IN INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. MAINICHI ("ECONCOM IN SEPT FIZZLES OUT") SIMPLY REPORTED MIYAZAWA STATEMENT ADDING THERE WAS IMPLICATION FOREIGN MINISTER DID NOT INTEND CONSULT SECRETARY ABOUT MATTER THIS WEEK. SANKEI ("ECONCOM IN SEPT CANCELLED") REPORTED

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MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES ON U.S. SIDE,

PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF WORSENING OF INDOCHINA SITUATION.
NIHON KEIZAI ("ECONCOM SHELVED") REPORTS MIYAZAWA STATE-
MENT WHICH INTERPRETED AS SHELIVING ECONCOM FOR THIS YEAR AND
LISTED PROBABLE REASONS AS (A) DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING
SCHEDULES OF CABINET MEMBERS PARTICULARLY ON U.S. SIDE DUE
VIETNAM SITUATION, (B) AVAILABILITY OF OTHER OPPORTUNITIES
INCLUDING MIYAZAWA'S VISIT THIS WEEK FOR EXCHANGE OF
VIEWS, AND (C) ABSENCE
OF BILATERAL ISSUES REQUIRING
URGENT SETTLEMENT.

3. IF QUERIED BY LOCAL EMBASSIES OR PRESS, WE INTEND
CONFIRM ECONCOM WILL NOT BE HELD IN SEPT DUE HEAVY SCHEDULE
OF PROSPECTIVE VISITS BY SENIOR JAPANESE OFFICIALS AND
ABSENCE OF SERIOUS BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES. IF ASKED,
WE INTEND SAY VIETNAMESE SITUATION WAS NOT RPT NOT A FACTOR.

SHOESMITH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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